

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 058859

LIMDIS TOSEC 577

FOLLOWING TEL SENT ACTION DEPT INFO LONDON, ROME, BONN, NATO,
MOSCOW FROM PARIS 15 MAR.

QUOTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 06720

LIMDIS

GENEVA FOR CSCE DELEGATION

E.O. 11652: XGDS

TAGS: PFOR XG CSCE

SUBJECT: CSCE BREZHNEV LETTER ON STAGE THREE SUMMIT

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: GISCARD WANTS TO REPLY TO
BREZHNEV'S LETTER ON CSCE SUMMIT BEFORE PRIME MINISTER
CHIRAC ARRIVES IN MOSCOW MARCH 19. PROPOSED GISCARD
REPLY WOULD POLITELY MAINTAIN LINKAGE BETWEEN PROGRESS
ON CSCE AGENDA AT GENEVA AND FIXING OF FIRM DATE FOR
SUMMIT, BUT NEVERTHELESS MAKES POSITIVE GESTURE TOWARDS
BREZHNEV'S TIMEFRAME. USG COMMENTS WELCOMED. END
SUMMARY.

2. QUAI DIRECTOR FOR EUROPE ANDREANI CALLED IN
REPRESENTATIVES OF AMERICAN, BRITISH, WEST GERMAN
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AND ITALIAN EMBASSIES SEPARATELY SATURDAY TO DISCUSS
BREZHNEV LETTER PROPOSING THE FIXING OF A FIRM DATE
FOR CSCE STAGE THREE SUMMIT. ANDREANI MADE FOLLOWING
POINTS TO EMBASSY POLCOUNSELOR.

3. GOF REALIZES THAT NATO CONSULTATIONS ON BREZHNEV LETTER ARE SCHEDULED FOR MONDAY, MARCH 17. GOF HAS PROBLEM WITH TIMING, HOWEVER, BECAUSE PRIME MINISTER CHIRAC DEPARTING PARIS FOR OFFICIAL VISIT TO USSR ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19. IT IS CONSIDERED IMPORTANT, THEREFORE, THAT GISCARD'S REPLY TO BREZHNEV PRECEDE CHIRAC'S ARRIVAL, SO THAT UNAMBIGUOUS BASIS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSIONS IN MOSCOW WILL BE ESTABLISHED IN ADVANCE.

4. GISCARD'S PROPOSED REPLY TO BREZHNEV WOULD SAY THE FOLLOWING:

(A) THERE ARE STILL SEVERAL IMPORTANT QUESTIONS TO BE SETTLED AT GENEVA. ANDREANI SAID THAT THIS PARAGRAPH WOULD NOT BE SPECIFIC. THERE WOULD BE NO IDENTIFICATION OF INCOMPLETE AGENDA ITEMS CONSIDERED IMPORTANT TO FRANCE.

(B) LETTER WOULD RECALL FRENCH-SOVIET COMMITMENT AT RAMBOUILLET LAST DECEMBER TO INTENSIFY EFFORTS IN GENEVA TO REACH AGREEMENT ON OUTSTANDING QUESTIONS. ANDREANI SAID THIS PARAGRAPH REFLECTS GOF DISAPPOINTMENT AT SOVIET FAILURE TO LIVE UP TO PROMISE OF RAMBOUILLET.

(C) IT IS ONLY THROUGH A CONTRIBUTION OF ALL PARTICIPANTS THAT THE CSCE CONFERENCE CAN ACHIEVE BALANCED AND SATISFACTORY RESULTS. ANDREANI SAID THIS PARAGRAPH REFLECTS GOF SOLIDARITY WITH EC-NINE SUMMIT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED IN DUBLIN MARCH 11.

(D) IF ALL OF THE FOREGOING IS ACCOMPLISHED, THE PARTICIPATING STATES WILL THEN BE ABLE TO FIX A FINAL DATE FOR STAGE THREE, AND GOF HOPES THAT THE DATE SELECTED WOULD BE APPROXIMATELY THE SAME AS THE ONE ENVISAGED BY BREZHNEV. ANDREANI SAID INITIAL DRAFT OF THIS PARAGRAPH HAD "THIRTY-FIVE PARTICIPATING STATES", BUT NUMBER WAS DROPPED AS BEING TOO PROVOCATIVE.

5. ANDREANI SAID GOF WANTS TO SEND GISCARD'S REPLY DURING COURSE OF TUESDAY, MARCH 18. USG COMMENTS AND CONFIDENTIAL

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SUGGESTIONS WOULD BE WELCOME PRIOR COB MONDAY. HE SAID THAT CONSULTATIONS ON PROPOSED REPLY LIMITED TO RECIPIENTS OF BREZHNEV LETTER, BUT ALL EC-NINE GOVERNMENTS BEING KEPT INFORMED. ITALIANS APPARENTLY DID NOT RECEIVE THEIR LETTER UNTIL FRIDAY EVENING. RUSH UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

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